

Urban Greening and Urban Forestry: Innovative Projects Grant

2008/2009

Request for Proposals



State of California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Urban Forestry Program



Grant program made Pursuant to the California Urban Forestry Act of 1978
(Public Resources Code 4799.06 – 4799.12)

Grant Funds made available from:

Proposition 40, California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood, Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002

Proposition 84, Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006

Urban Greening and Urban Forestry: Innovative Projects Grant 2008-2009

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) has set aside approximately \$1,500,000 to provide grants to cities, counties, districts or qualified nonprofit organizations that wish to create or implement an “Innovative Urban Greening or Urban Forestry Program. The maximum amount of a grant is \$500,000.

Practices that can be funded:

This grant will fund the development and implementation of an “Innovative Program” that will help improve greening in urban areas or arrest the decline of urban forest resources, facilitate the planting of trees in cities, and improve the quality of the environment in urban areas through establishment of, and improved management of urban vegetation.

The CAL FIRE-Urban Forestry Program works to maximize the potential of tree and vegetative cover in reducing energy consumption, improving air quality, and producing useful products such as fuel and high quality wood. We encourage citizen participation in the development and implementation of state and local agency urban forestry programs and projects.

Eligible applicants include cities, counties, qualifying districts, or nonprofit organizations qualified under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC 5096.605). Districts include, but are not limited to school, park, recreation, water, and local taxing districts.

Practices that may be funded by this grant include, but are not limited to the following:

- Preparing and implementing community-supported urban forest ordinances.
- Designing and implementing vegetation maintenance programs.
- Establishing urban forestry education centers to restore abandoned urban land and to develop community awareness of the benefits of managing our urban forests.
- Designing and implementing demonstration projects that give special attention to energy conservation or wood and fiber utilization projects.
- Other Urban Greening Projects such as community gardens, green roofs, bio-swales will be eligible.
- Application of the new Urban Forest Project Reporting Protocol approved by the California Climate Action Registry.
- If your project somehow improves urban greening or the management of urban green resources, it may be eligible.

Tree planting projects, Tree Inventories, Management Plans and Education programs are not the focus of this grant. Please refer to our other grants that specifically address those areas.

Conditions:

All of the following conditions must be met for a proposed urban forestry project to be eligible for a grant:

- a) A project must be located in, or immediately adjacent to, an “urban area” or “urban cluster” as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau.
(http://www.census.gov/geo/www/ua/ua_2k.html)
- b) The project has a commitment for active participation from one or more of the following: local residents, local business, local non-profits, or local government.
- c) The applicant has complied (and will comply) in all respects with all applicable local and county ordinances, and all applicable state and federal laws and regulations, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
- d) The applicant has entered into an agreement with the owners of the land for access to the land for at least three years.

Cost share:

These grants are to share the cost of eligible urban forestry projects. The proportion of the project's cost funded by CAL FIRE-Urban Forestry shall not be greater than **65%**. Matching contributions required as a condition of grants made pursuant to this section may be made in the form of material, services, or equipment, as well as funds.

Ineligible costs:

This grant cannot finance any undertaking or complete any practice designed to supplant rather than supplement existing local agency activities. Such ineligible practices shall consist of any request that CAL FIRE furnish grants to take the place of a regular or ongoing fiscal commitment to a program or project by a local government.

For projects that include Urban Forestry Management Plans, Inventories or Education Programs, no more than 15% of grant funds may be used towards each of these activities. Separate grants are available for these specific program areas. These activities as part of the overall project can be shown as project match dollars by the applicant.

For projects that include a tree planting component, not more than 15% of grant funds will be used for tree planting and initial maintenance. Tree planting as part of the overall project can be shown as project match dollars by the applicant.

Application:

Concept Proposals must be submitted by midnight of **October 24, 2008**.

The Concept Proposal Application can be found at

<http://www.ufe.org/grantinfo.lasso> and

http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/urbanforestry

Using the submit button at the end of the form field will submit your application electronically.

Project Timeline:

Projects Completed By

March 1, 2011

Projects Closed –

June 30, 2011

No Reimbursement Possible After this date

Procedural Guidelines:

Please review the Procedural Guide posted at <http://www.ufe.org/grantinfo.lasso> and

http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/urbanforestry